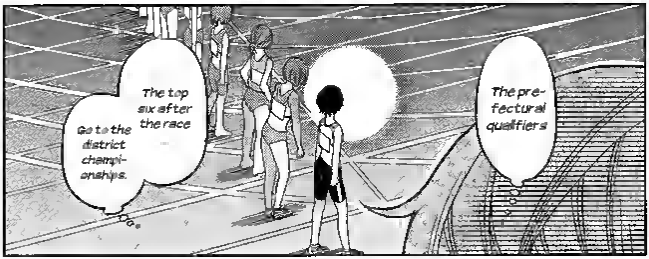
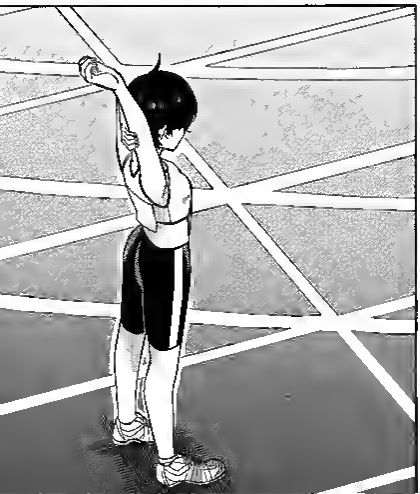

The prefectural qualifiers
The top six after the race
Go to the district championships.



And then, there are the nationals.

Mizuki.
If we managed to get this far...
Then we can surely go even further.
陸上部
陸上
I'm allowed to belie-ve that, right?
きゅ…

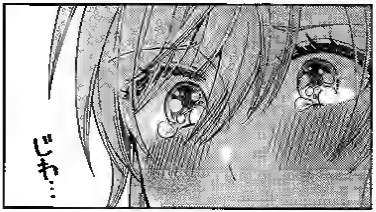
Chapter 17: The very last day

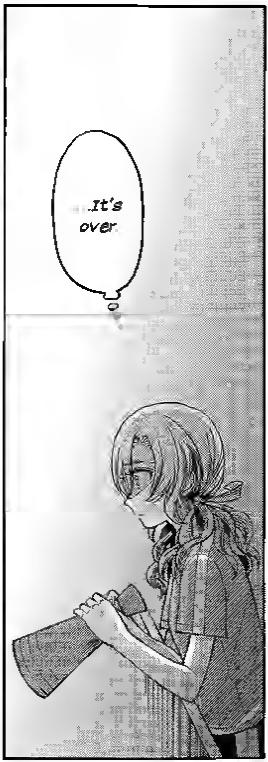
あの娘にキスと白百合を

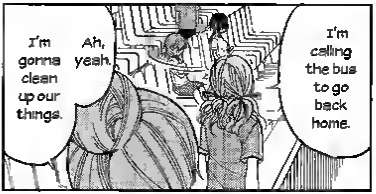
A Kiss and a White Lily for Her

Canno
缶乃

Seventh place.


じゃ…


...It's over.


I'm calling the bus to go back home.
Ah, yeah.
I'm gonna clean up our things.

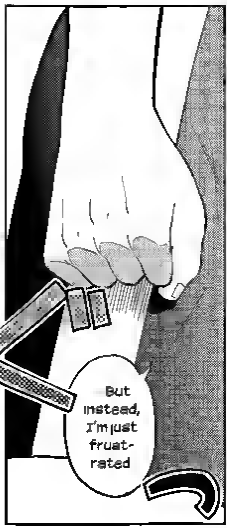
It's Mizuki who ran, so I shouldn't be the one crying
It's alright.

I'm gonna praise her, as always.
I'm gonna thank her for running for me.
And since she'll probably cry a bit, I'll smile and tell her...
That everything's fine as always.
Ah...

*end of the call

Thanks for running for me, Mizuki.
It was your best race so far
I was always watching you, you know

Mizuki! What's wrong?
Are you hurt some-where?
……


But instead, I'm just fruat-rated

It's strange.
You're praising me as always
Yet I just can't feel satisfied

……?
I should be happy that you were wat-ching me.
Somethin different?

I had forgotten that running for my own sake could be this painful
But...
Sorry

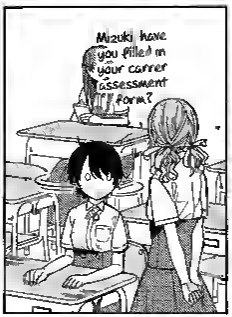
I would like to be alone...

In the end Mizuki came back just before our departure. her eyes swollen.
But she wanted to do it alone
And she kept crying during the whole trip back.

So I couldn't cry with her
Hello
Hello

BONK
Mizuki, were you alright, yeste...
...It seems she's got back up on her feet

Forget what I said.
UGH
Ouch...


Mizuki have you filled in your career assessment form?

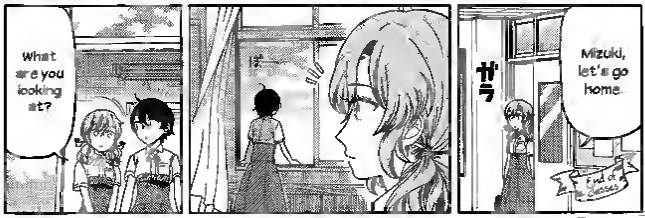
Mizuki your class is over there.

Mizuki you forgot your shoes.
She's even more out of it than usual

I must at least remain strong
This is no time for crying.

WELL IT WAS OUR LAST SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIP AFTER ALL
I GUESS IT WAS A SHOCK FOR HER.
ぼ——…
in a daze

The saga of Hoshi's remedies to remotivate Mizuki
Present
Do you plan on fattening me up so you can eat me?
I made cookies and cakes for you.
Past
Bento
Aaaaah
Eh…!
I must remotivate her!


What are you looking at?
ガラ
Mizuki, let's go home.
End of classes

Do you still want to run?
I was just thinking that it was the last time I'd be able to run like that

Honestly, I'm really frustrated that it all ended at the prefectural level
And I understood that by telling myself "I do all this for Mae"
I was fooling myself and ignoring my own feelings.
Right now, I think...
that I can be a better me while running
Maybe if I had understood it sooner -
It could have turned out a bit better Well, you know
I was going to say that I have regrets -
But that's not quite it.
It's true that you were using me as an excuse too often.
And since it made you suffer, I tried to make you understand... But...

No! Don't get me wrong ...
It's just that...
Forgive me
It seems like I was burden for you
It may be better if we kept just a bit more distance
I'm gonna prepare one last race for you
I'll ask the people who watch you, and those who run with you
Bus stop
Hospital
病院前

Hospital
Hospital
But I won't come to see you
See you later
...Okay
You efforts and their frut.. all belong to you, Mizuki
Don't think about me,
and run only for yourself
Yeah

Still your awesome self, aren't you..
I don't really care
I'm gonna win, either way
No problem
Thanks for your cooperation, Kurosawa
Maybe we should have put on the same shoes?
Where is the manager?
She's not here, today
What's gotten into you?
I heard you were the one who asked for it, this time?

Hmmm
I just have the feeling that I can defeat you, right now...
I think?
Apparently, Mizuki no longer needs me to stand back up
I'm off
Kurosawa was called on by a Senpai, it seems
Huh? Did something happen?
Dumo
I too must be able to achieve what I aim for by my own strength.
Nikaidou, is everything alright?

You look like you're on the verge of tears...
I WANT ALL OF YOU, WHEN YOU RUN.
パラ…
I must hold back.
I have to..
FORGIVE ME, MIZUKI.

BUT I CAN'T RUN LIKE YOU.
I CANNOT BE YOU.
SO I CAN'T UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU.
ピッ
Fweet
AND YET...
ぱっ

SO YOU HAVE TO WIN!
I...
I MAY BE STEALING YOUR LIFE...
BUT YOU HAVE ALWAYS BEEN THERE FOR ME, AND I LOVE YOU!
WIN, FOR YOUR OWN SAKE!

Ahaha
Yep, but I still lost
And it's raining now to boot
And I was sure you were gonna win, this time..
ぽんっ
It's all pointless if you heard me.
You think it's because I came out to watch you?
Nah, I hadn't even noticed and I was giving it my best, as always.
Hm
You wanna share my umbrella?
I'm walking you to the bus stop.
Yeah, that's that..
If that's still not enough to win, then that's that
I don't know, I feel relieved and I think I can accept my defeat more easily now..

I think I'm gonna quit track racing.
But at least, it allowed me to end all this property.

I won't stop running completely, since I love it.
But in my mind running has become closely related to you.
I wish you would continue
Really...

I don't want to have the same regrets again.
So I have to think seriously about what I want to do from now on.
And I must do it on my own, without relying on you.
It's also thanks to you that I came to think this way.
so I thank you.
And sorry to be such a bother.

No..
Did I say some-thing weird ?!

Moe?! Why are you crying?!
Sniff
I'm not crying.
Of course you are!
Don't try to look tough!!

When I realised that, I...
You can run even without me
But... This time, it's really over...
I've been holding it back since that day...
You've been holding back...
Mh...
Even though I was a sobbing mess... back then...
Now that's embarrassing...
.....
You know, Moe...

You can cry as much as you want.
I'm the only one looking

Hn

I'm beat
I think I just cried for the last five years
Say, Moe.
Oh no! I just thought that you were just as cute when you cry, that's all!
...Is my crying face that funny?
You've been staring at it
the very first person to hear me out? Even before my parents?
Would you be...
If I figure out what I want to do..

Of course
We share a bond, after all

Fufu

I wonder when the next bus will come. We should hurry
Ah!

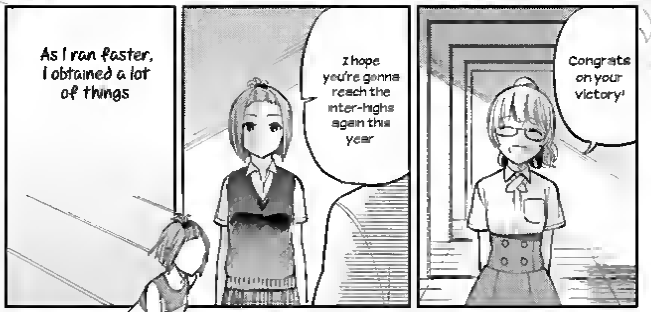
Never mind
Sorry?
What did you say?
Whisper
You could have kissed me a bit more seriously, geez.

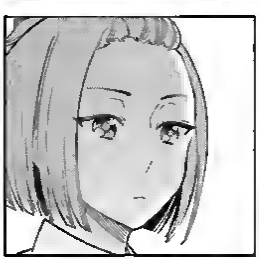
The Little Theater of KnoKiss ~Behind the scenes~

The other championship

【MAHO】
3rd year in Seiran High a track team. Has a peaceful character

【YUMEKO】
2nd year in a co-ed public High school. She and Maho have known each other for a long time.


As I ran faster, I obtained a lot of things
I hope you're gonna reach the inter-highs again this year
Congrats on your victory!
You're really incredible.
And I made new friends during the training camp
The teachers take their hats off to me.
I've become rather famous at school



The faster I go, the greater the distance between us becomes, for some reason.

How strange